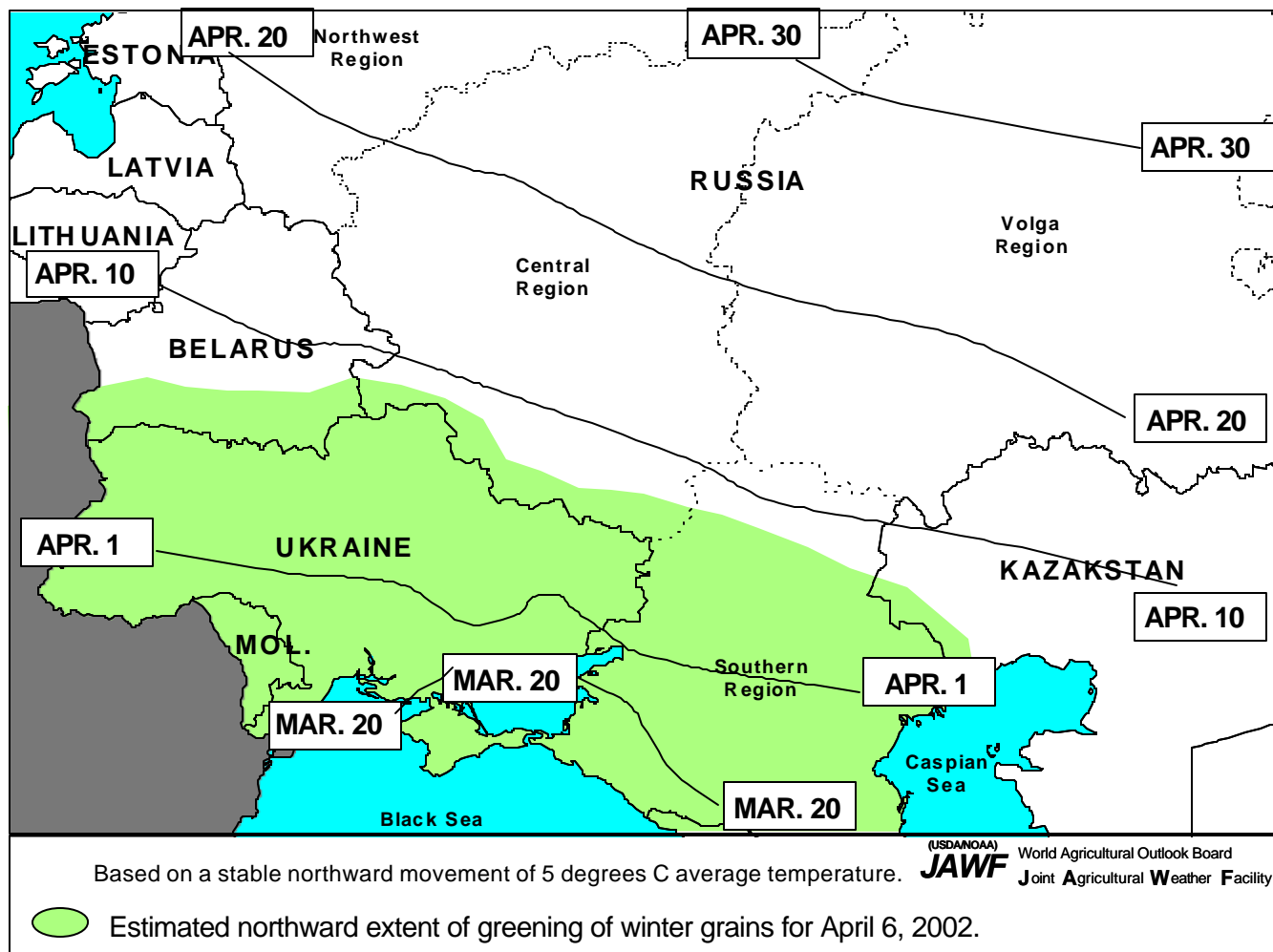


# FORMER SOVIET UNION (WESTERN)

AVERAGE DATES FOR EARLY SPRING GROWTH



## WEATHER AND CROP HIGHLIGHTS

APRIL 10, 2002

- o In March, above-normal temperatures along with generally dry weather prompted winter wheat in Ukraine and the Southern Russia to break dormancy about 2 to 3 weeks earlier than usual and favored early spring grain planting.
- o Winter wheat areas from Moldova eastward through southern Ukraine and southern Russia received abundant rainfall from March 24-28, boosting topsoil moisture for the upcoming growing season.
- o Since April 1, sharply colder weather along with some rain and snow overspread most areas, halting additional greening of winter grains and early spring grain planting.